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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 14, 1998, at 12:30 p.m.

Senate

MONDAY, JULY 6, 1998

The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Dear Father, we return to the work of this busy month with the words and music from the Fourth of July celebration sounding in our souls. We pray together today, remembering the first prayer of dependence prayed for the delegates to the Continental Congress in 1774 that eventually led to the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Now that the fireworks are over, work in us the fire of that same dependence on You that was the secret of truly great leaders throughout our history. We pray for the women and men of this Senate. Enlarge their hearts until they are big enough to contain the gift of Your Spirit; expand their minds until they are capable of thinking Your thoughts; deepen their mutual trust so that they can work harmoniously for what is best for this Nation. You know all the legislation to be debated and voted on before the August recess. Grant the Senators an unprecedented dependence on You, an unreserved desire to seek Your will, and an unlimited supply of Your supernatural strength.

Now we move forward into this 223d year of our history as a nation with renewed dependence on You and renewed interdependence on one another as fellow patriots. Help us to be willing, in the spirit of our founders, to stake our reliance on You and pledge our lives,

fortunes, and sacred honor for the next stage of Your strategy for America.

Lord of all life, we ask You to intervene and extinguish the fires that are sweeping throughout the State of Florida. Be with Senators MACK and GRAHAM as they personally comfort and care for the thousands whose homes have been destroyed and whose lives have been disrupted. In the Name of our Lord and Savior. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader is recognized.

Mr. HAGEL. I thank the Chair.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the period of morning business previously ordered for today be extended until 2:30 p.m.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SCHEDULE

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, today the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 2:30. Following morning business, it is the leader's intention to begin consideration of the VA-HUD appropriations bill. It is hoped that Members will come to the floor during today's session to offer and debate amendments to the VA-HUD bill. There will be no rollcall votes during

Monday's session, so any votes ordered with respect to the VA-HUD bill will be postponed to occur on Tuesday, July 7, at a time to be determined by the two leaders.

During Tuesday's session, under a previous order, there will be a cloture vote on the motion to proceed to the product liability bill at 9:30 a.m. Following that vote, the Senate will resume consideration of the VA-HUD bill and may also consider the IRS conference report Tuesday afternoon. The Senate could also consider any other legislative or executive items cleared for action.

The majority leader would like to remind all Members that July will be a very busy month with late night sessions during each week. The cooperation of all Members will be necessary for the Senate to complete its work prior to the August recess.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

Mr. President, I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

(Mr. HAGEL assumed the chair.)

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 2168

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I ask unanimous consent that at 2:30 p.m.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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